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EBRUARY, 1961

Topics for March



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT WITH HISTORIC PRESIDENTIAL CHAIN

For Christ and the Church ...



Cover

Now transferred from president to president of the International Society, this chain was originally a gift from all the unions to Dr. Francis E. Clark on his 60th birthday. At the 1929 Kansas City Convention Mrs. Clark presented the chain to Dr. Daniel A. Poling, then president of the International Society as well as the World's Union.

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Topics

SENIOR HIGH-YOUNG PEOPLE (15-24 YEARS) I've Found the Christ! Winsome Witnessing 12 I'm So Happy! Changing Tunes JUNIOR HIGH (12-14 YEARS) Steps and Stops "The Word Was God" "Behold the Man!"____ "Christ Died for Our Sins"____ JUNIOR (9-11 YEARS) List for March

The Voice of Christian Endeavor

FEBRUARY • 1961

Volume 76, Number 6

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MEMO

from the General Secretary.

A PLAN

This is an important word about a pilot project of extension service for Christian Endeavor, to be administered cooperatively by the International Society and state and provincial unions.

Always with a continuing concern for reaching out in Christian Endeavor extension, especially in these days of increasing opportunity and responsibility, the Executive Committee of the International Society authorized a committee to develop a pilot project of cooperative extension service, looking toward the eventual duplication of the arrangement in the several regions that make up the International Society. The responsibility for development was assigned to the Headquarters Committee composed of Chairman Julian Moran, Leroy, Indiana, vice-president of the International Society; Elwood Dunn, general secretary, Michigan Christian Endeavor Union, and vice-president of the International Society; Frances M. Becker, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, member of the International Society's Executive Committee; Dr. Robert W. Rash, Huntington, Indiana, Bishop of the United Brethren in Christ Church; with the general secretary serving as staff liaison.

At the outset the state unions of Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin have expressed an interest in participating in the plan. The Michigan Union has agreed to make its general secretary, Elwood Dunn, available for reasonable periods of time for work in other states, subject to its own work schedule within Michigan. Presently at least eight weeks are available. While working outside of Michigan, Mr. Dunn will travel as the Extension Representative of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. The list of participating states can be expanded if more time becomes available. Additional Extension Representatives will be sought by the International Society if wider interest is manifested in the plan.

The extension service of the International Society is under the direction of the Columbus Staff and is determined on the basis of greatest need and ability to serve. Itineration of the Extension Representative while in a participating state is at the discretion of the official board of the state union. It is intended that the Extension Representative will not spend time in Columbus but rather will spend the maximum time rendering assistance to state unions in their extension programs.

It is the hope of all concerned that by the time of the 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Chicago, July 5-8, the pilot project will have sufficiently proved itself to warrant broadening it considerably among other participating states and possibly with additional Extension Representatives.

A CHRISTIAN'S WILL

A Christian's Will is bound to be a Christian Will. Your Will is not a legal obligation imposed on you by law. Instead, it is an opportunity to make your will known concerning the disposition of your possessions. You can guarantee the undergirding of the ministry of the International Society of Christian Endeavor by including it in your Will. Consult your attorney. For additional information write to Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary. International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Havel Butuloff

A MAN OF THE HOUR

Happy is the person, no matter what he is doing—be it difficult or easy, pleasant or unpleasant—who can say, "For this cause came I unto this hour" (John 12:27). If one knows that he is doing the thing that God intended that he do and toward which he has been prepared, then there is a sense of satisfaction that cannot be marred by seeming failure or hardship. Jesus passed through Gethsemane and endured the cross with a sense of harmony with the eternal purpose, and a certain joy was set before

Moses passed through forty years of uncompromising training in Egypt and then forty years of discipline and hardship in the mountains as a shepherd, to be pre-pared for the great task of "shepherding" the children of Israel through the forty

years of wilderness wanderings.

Isaiah was trained in the court but that was not enough. His heart was broken over the slow and tragic death of his hero king, Uzziah, through leprosy. Then it was he who was willing to go into the temple and listen to the voice of God. Through careful and severe preparation he was prepared to become the great prophet of the Old Testament—the man of that hour in history when the world needed an Isaiah.

Today our task may be hard and at times we face seemingly impossible situations, but God has sent us to this hour to do His work, and He has matched us against the difficulties of our day-the indifference toward God, the sag in moral standards, the unholy desire for money and power, and the mad lust for pleasure. His grace in us is suffi-cient to meet the needs of our time.

Christian Endeavor with its evangelical emphasis and covenant principle of pledged loyalty to Christ meets the present day challenge with a forthright attitude of commitment to Christ and His way of life.

In the year 1840 two very attractive Christian young people, Charles Symmes and Lydia Clark, were united in marriage. Because Charles was a civil engineer and interested in surveying virgin timberland, they moved from their home community in Massachusetts to the north woods counin Massachusetts to the north woods country of Canada and settled in a little village called Aylmer, Quebec, on the banks of the Ottawa River near the place that is now the city of Ottawa. They named their home "Cherry Cottage" and out of that Christian atmosphere of love came four children. children.

The first was a boy, named Charles for his father. But sorrow invaded this happy circle and the second and third of the children, Edward and Katharine, died in infancy and so, when the fourth child was born September 12, 1851, and it was a boy, he was called Francis Edward because Mrs. Symmes was determined to have an Edward in her family named for her favorite brother, Rev. Edward W. Clark. When Francis Edward was not quite three years old in 1854 his father went on a business trip along the St. Lawrence River to a place called Three Rivers. On the way he discovered many of the passengers on the boat were immigrants from the old country

and they were sick. It is said that before they reached their destination about half of

Mr. Symmes, a strong man physically and a devout Christian, rolled up his sleeves and ministered to those dying people, physically and spiritually, but on his arrival at Three Rivers he, too, was sick. Three hours after landing he died. In those pioneer days they had no system of embalming nor was there any means of speedy communication or transportation. He was buried in the church yard at Three Rivers with-out his family at Cherry Cottage knowing what had happened. Four years later when little Francis Edward was an impressionable boy of seven, he stood with his mother by the grave of his father.

Not realizing the deep impression it would one day have upon her son and not thinking anyone would ever see it but herself, his mother wrote in her diary of her trust in God, pledged her devotion to Him in the midst of her sorrow, and closed the entry with the words of the psalmist, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within

me, bless his holy name.'

me, bless his holy name.

In less than a year the oldest son of the family, Charles, died with typhoid fever and a few months later the mother was stricken with an illness that proved to be fatal. Again she wrote in her diary, "Truly the Lord is good and will not suffer the coult of those what trust in Him to want." soul of those who trust in Him to want."

Before her death she wrote to her brother, Rev. Edward W. Clark, a Congregational minister in New England, and asked that, in case she did not survive her illness, he would take her little son Francis Edward, the last surviving member of the family,

and make him his own son.

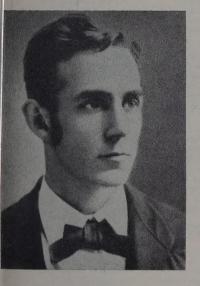
On the death of Mrs. Symmes, her little eight-year-old boy was taken to the home of his uncle and adopted as his son. His name became Francis Edward Clark. It is not strange that the Lord called this boy into the ministry, and at thirty years of age while he and his good wife, Harriet, were while he and his good whe, harriet, were serving the Williston Congregational Church of Portland, Maine, a real revival swept through the church and many young people

gave their hearts to the Lord

To help those young people grow in the Christian way, he devised a plan of organization he called Christian Endeavor. He organized the first society February 2, 1881. Since they were committed young people, the pastor included in the constitution the prayer-meeting pledge which required active members to participate in each meeting. Expanded, this soon became the pledge as it is known today, beginning, "Trusting it is known today, beginning, "Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do," Literchristian Endeavor movement have taken that pledge and moved forward for Christ and the Church around the world, in the eighty years of its history.

Through hardship and sorrow, God pre-

pared a man for the hour in the person of Francis E. Clark. Today that same Christ has been preparing and calling us to do His work in the same spirit of dedication.



By Dr. Clyde W. Meadows

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Romans 12:1).

SEVERAL YEARS ago Clyde W. Meadows was invited to speak at a state Christian Endeavor convention in Vincennes, Indiana. Traveling by train it took him all night and most of a day to get to the convention. He arrived at Vincennes on the afternoon of a very, very hot day.

That evening as he and the choir were climbing a narrow stairway to the platform of the church, someone in the choir said to him, "Preacher, can you make it short? We're burning up in this heat!" Though the singer made the remark jokingly, he meant it.

Meadows replied, "I have traveled a day and a half to get here and it will take me a night and half a day to get home. But if you say so, I'll make it short." Keeping his promise, he spoke for only

Keeping his promise, he spoke for only twenty minutes, presenting the claims of Christ for the lives of young people. It was decision night, so he concluded the message with an invitation for those who were willing to make a decision for Christ to come forward to the altar. Several went forward while a hymn was sung. They had prayer together and then the benediction was pronounced.

Meadows went down the aisle to the door to greet some of the young people, but they didn't move. They stayed in their places. Many were sitting with bowed heads. Occasionally one got up and went forward, placed a statement of his commitment on the altar and paused to pray. One after another did this. For over an hour it went on. God was speaking. The heat was forgotten. Young people were yielding to Christ. Altogether more than eighty went forward in commitment to Christ that night.

Today Clyde W. Meadows is president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor which has approximately one million members in Protestant churches in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. He is also a member of the executive committee of the World's Christian Endeavor Union.

During the years he has been very active in work with young people and has served in Christian Endeavor as a pastor-counselor for the Franklin County (Pennsylvania) Union. On the state level he has served on the Board of Directors and as chairman of that Board. In the International Society he has been a trustee, a member of the executive committee and vice-president. From 1954 to 1958 he was vice-president representing Pennsylvania in the World's Union.

All these activities have been in addition to his heavy schedule of work at King Street United Brethren in Christ Church, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, where he has been pastor since 1928. Dr. Meadows, a man with tremendous energy and enthusiasm, keen intellect, a ready smile, and deep devotion to Christ, amazes people by all that he does.

Following his election to head the International Society in July, 1959, he said, "It is indeed a high honor to be elected the president of this great youth movement, . . . and I have accepted in a deep spirit of humility, for those who have gone before me in this position—Dr. Francis E. Clark, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Dr. Ernest R. Bryan, and Dr. Earle W. Gates—are among God's greatest men.

Dr. Clyde W. Meadows

By MARY LOU FUNK

Associate Editor
United Brethren Publications

"The duties and responsibilities of such a position overwhelm me, but I said a long time ago, 'Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would have me do.' Through His guidance and strength we go forward for Christ and the Church."

WHILE A TEEN-AGER, Clyde W. Meadows was one of about twenty-seven members of the Christian Endeavor society of the Mt. Olivet United Brethren Church near Mt. Solon, Virginia. It was while serving as vice-president of this society that his struggle over entering the ministry came to a climax.

"In that summer of 1919," says Meadows, "I was working on a farm near the Mt. Olivet Church and had a horse I rode to attend the church services. After I was elected vice-president of the Christian Endeavor society it fell to my lot to lead the meetings on several occasions.

"On one of those times it was consecration night. We stood up to read or recite the pledge. Having recited the first sentence, 'Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would have me do,' I was convinced that I couldn't say that honestly and not enter the ministry.

"I had felt for several years that God was calling me to be a minister. In fact, first thoughts of the ministry came to me as a six-year-old boy. But I had decided that I wanted no part of the ministry, for my father and mother were both ministers and I knew its difficulties and heartaches.

"I had been converted at the age of nine and now at 18 was perfectly willing to be a Christian and try to live the right kind of life, but I had no intentions of entering the ministry.

"Going home from that Christian Endeavor consecration service, a severe struggle went on within me. I rode my horse back to my place of work. But before I left my horse loose in the pasture that night, the issue was settled. I committed my life to Jesus Christ for the Christian ministry, in whatever field He chose to lead me."

That fall Clyde W. Meadows left the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and went to Huntington College, Huntington, Indiana, to prepare himself for the work to which God had called him.

Coming from an extremely poor missionary preacher family, he had to make his own way as a teen-ager as well as all the way through college. "There were times," Meadows recalls, "when it seemed impossible, but the way always opened—sometimes at the very last minute by a providential experience or turn of events. For months at Huntington College, while baching with a friend, we lived mostly on salmon cakes, which were the cheapest thing to

make. To this day I can hardly eat salmo But having survived these hard experienc I am glad now that I passed through ther

"On one occasion, in working with a main the prison across the street from the Kir Street Church, it seemed that I could get the idea over to him of how he oug to respond. Finally he looked at me ar asked, 'Were you ever hungry?' Then told him of my student experience of poerty. This opened the way and he seemed to get the idea that I could understand he difficulties."

The years at Huntington included oth never-to-be-forgotten experiences. He we chosen to sing in the college quartet. It began his work as a pastor. In Latin cla he became well acquainted with Mab Mumma and in 1924 they were married.

Dr. Meadows also remembers partice pating in the college Christian Endeave before becoming a pastor. In all of the regular pastorates he has served, Christia Endeavor has had a very prominent plasmand has been an important agency in diveloping the work of the church.

The King Street Church had one Chritian Endeavor society when he first we there. Soon a second one was organize Today there are four. "We should ha five and possibly six," says Meadows, "ar we'll likely organize these extra societi as time goes on." The present total mer bership is 220 and the average attendan in the four societies is approximately or hundred and fifty.

WHEN DR. MEADOWS was asked whe Christian Endeavor has done for Lyoung people and his church, he said: "Dring my first year at Chambersburg, sever of us felt the need of a visitation evang ism program. We appealed to the Christi Endeavor society to lead off in this. The gave us 17 workers. Others were added that number and they went out in visit tion. It was so influential in the revivervices that followed that that plan heen in operation for 33 years. The cogregation has tripled in size until tod its members number approximately 1,30 with an average attendance each week Sunday school of over 1,000. It has all grown tremendously in spiritual and finacial strength. During the last 33 years me than \$623,000 has been invested in the building program and the church has a sumed the support of nine full-time m sionaries—in addition to paying the regulassessed benevolent budget.

"Of the 205 teachers and officers in the Sunday school, the majority of them has received their training in Christian Endeave. There are forty members of our office board of administration who really run the church and make the major decisions with regard to policy, program, and finance. The

eader of Youth

How much do you know about the president of the International Society?

at majority of these forty people have ne up through Christian Endeavor and ist of them are still active in the adult ciety. We do not feel that we could carry the great work of this church without wristian Endeavor."

Besides those still serving in the King reet Church, there are a number of others to developed their talents and whose unistian lives were strengthened through the street church developed the street case. There are at least four missionaries defive ministers in this number. Walter the street was an active christian Endeavor the street church, was an active Christian Endeavor the street was a street with the street church.

LTHOUGH HE HAS many duties at King Street Church, Dr. Meadows perms numerous services outside his pasate. Many of these are in the work of ristian Endeavor, and have taken him various parts of the United States, to mada, England, Germany, and Mexico.

"One experience that stands out in my mory," says Meadows, "took place in assanetta Springs, Virginia. B. McClain who was associated with Christian ideavor in Pennsylvania at that time, and were asked to help in the Virginia state nvention.

"We discovered after we arrived that are was no provision for a decision service. Mac and I talked it over with some of a leaders. They agreed that we should we a decision time following the one everag service that was largely given over to a unal program with a Gospel film. I was osen to give an invitation for people to be their hearts to Christ, to surrender eir lives in full-time Christian service, to rededicate their lives to Christ. After a film was shown I tried in a simple way present the claims of Christ. Again God oke to young people and in a few brief oments over ninety came forward to surader their lives or their hearts or to redicate themselves to the Lord, more than score of them for a first time commitant, and another twenty-five or thirty for ll-time Christian service."

Dr. Meadows can relate many incidents e this one with reference to county, tte, international, and world conventions.

In the 1954 World's Convention at Washgroup, D.C., he participated in the decision rvice. It was at that time that "Corky" ling, along with other young people, dedited his life to the Christian ministry. orky" is the grandson of Dr. Daniel A. ling, president of the World's Union, and e son of Clark V. Poling, who gave his e as a chaplain during World War II. At Frankfurt, Germany, in 1958, Dr. Meadows was in charge of the great Saturday night mass session of that World's Convention. It was decision and music night. That suited him well. He was told that there would be approximately 8,000 people in this session. It turned out that there were between 14,000 and 15,000, ninety-two percent of whom were teenagers. The great Festival Hall in Frankfurt was packed to the last seat in the balcony.

Talented and trained in music, he thrilled in leading that very large audience in singing Gospel hymns. Harold Westerhoff, general secretary of the International Society, said of that occasion, "It was a marvel how, within a few minutes, he made those fourteen thousand people, singing in many languages, into one great choir."

Meadows had been told that he would have a good interpreter. As in the case of the size of the audience, they underestimated. Meadows says that the interpreter was a man of God like unto few he has ever met. He had spent six years in one of Hitler's concentration camps, then three years in the salt mines of Siberia while a prisoner of the Russian Communists. Now his zeal for the Lord has led him into missionary work behind the Iron Curtain. For that reason his name must be kept a secret.

Dr. Meadows believes that God used the interpreter to really get the message over. It was reported that about one thousand young people from thirty-one countries gave their hearts to Christ that night.

Another incident which reveals how God has used Dr. Meadows in Christian Endeavor work goes back to 1933 and his first contact with the Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor Union. He was asked to go to Bucknell University, where they were having their Summer Assembly. They wanted him to teach a course on "Personal Christian Living."

Most of his group on that occasion were high school young people. A number of them committed their lives to Christ in response to the course he taught and the appeal he made. Among them was a boy by the name of Robert Lamont. That young man went on from that experience to become a pastor in a Presbyterian Church in the Philadelphia area. From there he went to the First Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, the second largest church in that denomination. In speaking before the Chambersburg Rotary Club a few years ago, Lamont said he traced his commitment to full-time Christian service back to the class that Meadows had conducted.

REGARDING HIS Christian Endeavor responsibilities, Dr. Meadows says, "I feel that it is a work of the Lord and I am

grateful to the Lord for His help in giving me health and strength to carry these extra responsibilities and meet these wonderful opportunities. The world definitely needs the emphasis of Christian Endeavor on personal Christian living, personal evangelism, and dedication to Christ and the Church. I do not hesitate, whenever I have opportunity, to present the claims of Christ, and I am most thrilled with the responses on every occasion."

What is Dr. Meadows' advice to young people in this crucial hour of world history?

He says, "If you are to be happy and successful and live a useful, fruitful life, you must lose yourself in surrender to Christ and commitment to His will and way.

"The greatest difficulty and source of unhappiness with young people in America today is the fact that so many of them have so much and have experienced so much that life has turned in upon them and they have thought of themselves as the center of all things. They have had everything, done everything, seen everything, experienced everything, and have become bored with life.

"Jesus gave the basic principle of happiness when He said, 'He that would save his life shall lose it, but he that loseth his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.' Happiness and success in real life is accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour and following Him in utter obedience and deepest loyalty."

The Need Today

The situation that we face today is a difficult one. Forty percent of the crimes committeed in the United States last year were done by children under 16 years of age. According to statements at the White House Conference on Children and Youth, in the last reported year 670,000 juvenile delinquency cases came before our courts, and this figure has doubled in ten years; 202,000 cases of illegitimate births were reported, and this figure has doubled in eight years. We hold the record of the world in consumption of beverage alcohol, homicide, and divorce.

The need of the hour is a "hard" gospel which is good news, but also states the uncompromising conditions upon which we can survive and win the world to the way of Christ. This in essence is the teaching of Christian Endeavor and has been for 80 years—absolute personal commitment to Christ, which brooks no deviation from the Christ-way of life in daily practice.

-Clyde W. Meadows

Jhank You, Harold E. Westerhoff!

Thank you, Harold E. Westerhoff, and happy landings on your trip around the world. How wonderful it is to have a man like you as general secretary of the World's Christian Endeavor Union and the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

To those who may not know, it can now be said that Harold Westerhoff recently sold his long-time family home in New Jersey and is investing practically all of the proceeds of that sale in an educational trip around the world. He is using his vacation time and his personal funds, so at no expense to either the World's Union or the International Society he is representing both organizations as a good-will ambassador.

On this trip plans will be finalized through personal contacts for the 14th World's Christian Endeavor Convention to be held in Sydney, Australia, August 16-21, 1962, as well as for International Society's Round-the-Pacific Fellowship Tour August 3-September 2, 1962. Conferences will be held with Christian Endeavor leaders in

many places, including William J. Sharpe, general secretary of Area II of the World's Union, who resides in England.

The itinerary includes visits with Christian Endeavorers in Seattle, Washington; two days in Portland, Oregon, for a Pacific Regional Conference of the International Society; then departure from continental United States from Portland on February 19. There will be stops in Hawaii, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, Burma, India, Lebanon, Jerusalem, Italy, Spain, Portugal, England, and Ireland, returning to New York City on April 11, and arriving back at Christian Endeavor Headquarters in Columbus on April 12.

Again we say thank you, Harold Westerhoff, and we shall be following you with our prayers and good wishes around the world.

CLYDE W. MEADOWS
President
International Society

DANIEL A. POLING
President
World's Union

LAST CALL FOR ENTRIES!

All entries in the 1961 Citizenship Awards Program must be mailed by February 6.

Has your Christian Endeavor society sponsored a citizenship activity during the last year? Then you may be eligible to compete for the Albert H. Diebold Awards, which total almost \$1,500 in cash, trips, plaques, and certificates.

Any society or similar youth group in the United States or Canada, the majority of whose members are under 25 years of age, may enter. A completed Christian citizenship activity must be reported. Each activity will be evaluated on the basis of group participation, goals established or achieved, and the manner in which it implements the folder "What Is Christian Citizenship?"

Projects may relate to these areas of concern: home relationships, civic responsibilities, wholesome recreation, race relationships, narcotics, gambling, obscene literature, and observance of the Lord's Day.

Review your society program. Perhaps it has included several citizenship projects. Any suitable project may be entered, even though it was not undertaken specifically for the Awards Program.

Gather together all information concerning this activity—mimeographed or printed items, photos or colored slides, newspaper articles or pictures, a scrapbook, a written report by one or more who participated, or any other material which gives a good description of the entire project and its results. Fill out the entry form at the right and send it, with all materials, by February 6.

Winners of the Albert H. Diebold Awards for 1961 will be announced April 25.

HOW TO ENTER AWARDS PROGRAM

Study the folder "What Is Christian Citizenship?" and select some significant Chris citizenship activity. Organize the society for action and complete the activity by Febru 6. Keep full records of objectives and plans and accomplishments.

Detach the entry form below, fill out, and attach materials describing the activit written report, photographs, press clippings, drawings, commendations, etc.

Mail the entry form and all accompanying materials to the Citizenship Director the International Society of Christian Endeavor by February 6, 1961. All entries will acknowledged.

IMPORTANT! DO NOT SEND ENTRY UNTIL PROJECT IS COMPLETED SUBMIT MATERIALS DESCRIBING THE ACTIVITY WITH THE ENTRY FOR

ENTRY FORM (Print or type in full)

(Valid only if postmarked no later than February 6, 1961)

Please enter the citizenship activity described in the attached materials in Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Awards Program.

(Name of society or group)

(Name of church)

(Address of church)

(Name and address of person sending entry)

(Your office or position in society or church)

Send to Citizenship Director, International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

All entries become the property of the International Society of Christian Endeavor All participating societies or groups agree to abide by the decisions of the judges which are final.



THE ART OF ANGLING

otes from a talk on personal ork by Rev. Allen S. Tinsley, resident, Australian Christian ndeavor Union.

Reprinted from CHRISTIAN ENDEAV-UR, published by the Christian En-Pavor Union of Great Britain and eland.)

Our Lord and Master could easily pin such a notice to the bulletin board of our lives and churches. Oh, yes, we are engaged in a multitude of such busy activities, but how many are fruitful and valuable? How many are directed to our primary purpose of making disciples . . . catching men alive for Christ?

Because I feel it is so essential for Christian Endeavorers not only to be avowed and committed Christians themselves, but to be busy in the major task of winning others to the Saviour's side, I am inviting you to join the ancient and honorable order of fishermen, founded by the Master on the shores of Lake Galilee, when He said, "Come ye after me and I will make you to become fishers of men."

Fishing for souls is the most imperative and inspiring task of the Christian and if he does not cast the line or dangle the rod for Christ, the Devil's devotees will scoop the pool or dredge the depths till they have compassed sea and land to make one proselyte for Hell.

We cannot all be HARPOONERS and go after the leviathans of the deep as did Moses and Elijah and later Luther and Knox, who stood before princes and potentates and smote them with the Word of the Lord. Neither can we all be NETTERS as were the famous evangelists, Peter and Paul, Spurgeon and Moody, Billy Graham and many others, whose nets "nearly broke with the multitude of fishes," but we can all be LINESMEN, like the Master Fisherman, who in the quiet pools of Sychar and Bethesda and elsewhere caught solitary souls, as lasting examples of personal evangelism.

Now, I am not a good fisherman, but I have a few clues and these are wonderfully applicable in spiritual fishing . . .

- 1. Secure a Good Position. You cannot get good results from the rocking boat of human philosophy, or the shifting sands of theological speculation, or the drifting launch of modernism, which has lost its moorings. YOU must stand firmly on the Rock of Ages. Before setting out to catch others, you must have a personal and experimental knowledge of Christ as Saviour and Lord. You must be rooted and founded in the faith, then waves and tides will have little effect.
- 2. Select Good Tackle. The old-fashioned Gospel tackle—John 3:16—is still readily available, not obsolete, and retains its old time lifting power. The new-fangled tackle of the modern cults gets hopelessly tangled and cannot lift a needy soul above the billows of sin, or land a solitary catch on the Rock of Ages. Know the Word of the Gospel—man before God, a lost, condemned sinner; Jesus came, died, rose again to bring us salvation, dying in our place. That's the tackle to use.
- 3. Procure Suitable Bait. Fish are very finicky and like a variety of dishes. An expert angler utilizes worms, prawns, crabs, and a variety of other marine delicacies. In fishing for men we need infinite patience and sanctified ingenuity. One man will be captured for Christ by means of a lively tract, another by a hymn or a sermon, the

majority by a Bible text, with its barbed hook of mercy and judgment. Sometimes the angler puts on a little live fish and gets a great catch—often the fervent testimony of a new convert, who is alive and alert for Christ, will attract those who can be reached no other way. Variety of methods is essential. Ask God for guidance as to the right one.

- 4. Throw Out Well . . . not over the heads of your listeners, for academic argument is beyond many, neither cast in the shallows of superficial sentimentality, for mere emotionalism only casts up flotsam and jetsam. Adapt your approach to the needs of the one you are attempting to win. Find a point of vital contact. Talk on that line, and introduce the Gospel through it—not the church or other related subjects, but the Gospel of Christ, which is able to save and satisfy.
- 5. Change Your Lines When Necessary. Don't become stereotyped in your methods. Use the long line of Christian evidence and prophecy for the sceptic; the silken line of sympathy for the lonely; the nylon line of warning for the scornful; the threaded line of comfort for the sorrowful; and the corded line of mercy, like Rahab's scarlet thread, for the sinner, but do not forget in these days of easy-going complacency about spiritual things, to use the line of judgment, the piercing Word of God, which says, "Prepare" or "Beware."
- 6. Do Not Forget the Sinker of Prayer . . . which carries your line to the depths, otherwise the line, however spectacular, will float lightly and your appeal for a decision will make but a surface impression. Be prayerful with consistency and faith.
- 7. Do Not Fish with Tangled Lines. If your life is not straight for God, you will never get results. The tangles must be taken out with patience, prayer, and perseverance. In fishing for souls, consecration is more important than concentration.
- 8. Put Your Fish in the Pool. Do not leave your catch high and dry. The story is told of a fisherman who has a pool of clean water in his fishing boat, into which he places every fresh catch . . . the best place for a new Christian is in the pool of the Rock of Ages. Bring them to the place where they are ready to come amongst Christian people and join the fellowship of the church. If you are a weak Christian, you need the church; if you are a strong Christian, the church needs you.
- 9. Pull in Quickly . . . not always good advice in ordinary fishing. Personal, anxious inquirers should be quickly caught and landed, for sometimes they are as slippery as eels and just as elusive. Often, when almost landed, they are taken by those scavengers of the deep, sharks, who (like the Devil) go about seeking whom they may devour.
- 10. Do Not Be Disappointed with Small Fish. When Spurgeon took the bait of that local preacher on a wintry Sunday night in a small congregation, he was only a sardine. The small fry of today are the big fish of tomorrow. Every soul is of vital importance in the Kingdom of God.
- 11. Finally: Keep Out of Sight. One great authority on angling advised anglers to keep out of sight. My young friend, keep yourself out of sight. Give your Saviour the pre-eminence, let Him guide and control your life. "He must increase, but I must decrease."

46th International Christian Endeavor Convention

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS JULY 5-8, 1961



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TENTATIVE PROGRA

Tuesday, July 4

12:00 Noon-Registration begins tation; speaker: Dr. Daniel A. Pol president, World's Christian Ende Union

7:30-8:45 PM—Prayer Vigil 8:45-9:30 PM—Prayer Service; leader: Earle W. Gates, immediate past presid International Society

Wednesday, July 5

7:15-8:15 AM—Breakfast 8:30-9:30 AM—Breakfast
8:30-9:30 AM—Opening Session and C
munion Service; keynote speaker:
Clyde W. Meadows, president, Inte
tional Society
9:45-11:30 AM—Educational Confere
9:45-10:30 AM—Youth Assembly
12:00-1:30 PM—Lunch and General

sembly

2:00-5:00 PM-Youth Assembly

5:30-6:45 PM—Dinner

7:30-9:30 PM—General Convention sion; speaker: Dr. Daniel A. Poling

Thursday, July 6

7:15-8:15 AM—Breakfast 8:30-9:30 AM—Quiet Hour and E Study; Junior High (Intermediate)— Jacob Prins, Forest Grove Refor Church, Hudsonville, Michigan; Se High-Young People—Dr. Earle W. G. First Church of Evans, Derby, New Y Adult—Rev. Theodore Richardson, Mo politan Community Church, Chicago 9:45-11:30 AM—Educational Conference 9:45-10:30 AM—Youth Assembly

12:00-1:30 PM-Lunch and General

sembly 2:00 PM-Meeting of Corporation, I

national Society 4:00 PM-Meeting of Board of Trus

International Society

5:30-6:45 PM-Dinner

7:30-9:30 PM—General Convention sion; speaker: Myron J. Taylor, min. Boulevard Church of Christ, To Ohio

Friday, July 7

(Morning Schedule same as Thursday) 2:00-5:00 PM—State conventions meetings of union delegations
5:30-6:45 PM—Convention Banquet
7:30-9:30 PM—General Convention

sion; speaker: Dr. Billy Graham, egelist, Montreat, North Carolina

Saturday, July 8

(Morning Schedule same as Thursday) 9:45 AM-1:30 PM—Junior Conventic 3:00-5:00 PM—Christian Witness Par 5:30-6:45 PM—Dinner 7:30-9:30 PM—General Convention

sion; speaker: Dr. George K. Schwe associate professor of chemistry, Unity of Tennessee, Knoxville 9:30 PM—Adjournment

Song Leader: Dean S. Jacoby, mir First Christian Church, Crown Poin

Convention Music

Organist: Stephen Jacoby, student, State University, Columbus, Ohio

With Adults in Christian Endeavor

A page especially for Young Adults (25-35) and Adults (36-up)

DULT TOPIC SUMMARIES

World Religions

Christianity a Minority Psalm 95; II Timothy 2:7-16

The major world religions are Christianity, Mohamedanism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, intoism, Judaism, and Zoroastrianism. In addition, ere are many other religions classed as "primitive." ather information concerning the membership, location, story, textbook, and distinctive beliefs of each religion. o not be afraid to face the facts! What contribution as each of them made to the world? Contrast the other ligions with Christianity in every possible respect. Note at Christianity embraces a minority of the world's pulation. Where is its superiority?

Many People, Many Gods

Exodus 34:10-14; I Timothy 6:11-21

Make a further study of the beliefs of the major world ligions. Consider carefully their basic concepts, noting e holy book, the recognized authority, and the various tes and practices of each. Note especially their peculiar ms and concerns. Are they directed toward adoration service? For instance, the Oriental religions tend to ress meditation and ritual. Perhaps various members ill be able to bring objects used in the practice of some these religions. Discuss how Communism is evolving to a religion through recognition of an authority, notional appeal, and total dedication to a cause. ow does Christianity meet world needs better than her religions? Is it doing so?

I'm Glad I'm a Christian!

I John 1:1-10; II Timothy 1:12-14

Using the two preceding topics as foundation, seek it the values of Christianity. As a challenge to your ith, delve into the distinctives of Christianity. Beome able to give a reason for your Christian faith. List e unique features of Christianity-Jesus Christ, salation from sin, the gift of the Holy Spirit, etc. Though aving only a third of the world's population, Christinity is the most potent force in the world. Find the ason in Zechariah 4:6. Why is Christianity not a digion, but the religion? Why is the Great Commission imperative? Why is our evangelistic obligation so imortant? Are you glad you're a Christian? If so, what bes this mean to your world-wide concern?

Facing Death

To Live Is Christ

Philippians 1:19-21; John 11:25-27

There is no life without death. What is the relationip between life and death for the Christian? Study gether carefully Paul's prayer for believers in hilippians. Note how he relates life and death and how e sets high standards for the new life in Christ. Eternal fe begins when one receives the Lord of life through with. From that time, a Christian is one with Him. aul says "to live is Christ." Why must one learn to face fe in order to face death? List and discuss ways in hich the Christian life on earth is a preparation for eath and life beyond death.

(The second topic in this series will be carried in

e next issue.)

A Fellowship of Prayer

By Bert H. Davis

THE minister suggests, "Let us unite in prayer." Those who share in the worship experience might be, say, twenty persons, or several thousand. But there is a prayer life for a much smaller group—even two or three

The importance of even "two or three . . . gathered together in my name" was mentioned by Jesus (Matthew 18:19,20). Three only of His disciples were asked to "watch and pray" as Jesus entered into His Gethsemane.

A prayer group of two or three, or a few more, will not take the place of personal prayer, in which one child of God is alone, talking with his Heavenly Father. We shall not substitute the small group for the experiences of the congregation united in prayer. In fact, all three forms of prayer experiences might be present within a short period: (1) on entering and seating himself in the house of worship, John prays silently that he and others may come close to God in the service that is to follow, and he may ask God's blessings for the speaker and other participants; (2) John will share in the congregational period of prayer; (3) with one or two others, he may gather for group prayers either before or after the formal service. John and his fellows, in the latter case, might be praying with one who decides to commit, or re-commit, his life to his Saviour. A minister often asks a layman or two to meet for prayer with one who is placing himself in the Saviour's keeping.

IF YOUR prayer life does not now include these quiet times of informal worship with a few fellow Christians, the following suggestions might prove helpful:

- 1. This is God's world, and He is always ready to hear and to guide us. He is closer than hands or feet; any place in which the Christian finds himself can be a place of prayer.
- 2. One's prayer life is wisely based on a continuing experience of prayer. We would not be like the storm-tossed of whom the Psalmist writes: soul is melted because of trouble. They . . . are at their wit's end. Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their (Psalm 107:26-28). Husband and wife, or two or three friends, do not limit the prayer fellowship to times of stress or anxiety.
- 3. The blessings and mercies and "present help" of God, familiar to the individual believer, are shared with others in a group brought together to unite in prayer.
- 4. We shall not plan nor commit to memory the words we shall speak, though our Bible reading will often suggest phrases. Often the occasion for group prayer will supply our words: a friend is ill, a neighbor is seeking to know God, tasks in the church are before us.
- 5. This message in itself might help Young Adults and adults to come together in prayer groups. Let friends know that the idea appeals to you. Pray that God will guide and help you as you engage in such a fellowship.



I've Found the Christ!

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

MARCH

Comments by Dr. Lawrence M. Bixler*

Promoting the Meeting

Why not write a letter to each member of the society emphasizing the importance of his being at the meeting? On the letter you might use the drawing of a beehive with a couple of bees and the caption "Why not bee a worker rather than a drone?"

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service Hymns: Give of Your Best to the Master and I Surrender All

Scripture: John 1:35-41

Special Musical Number (perhaps Now I

Belong to Jesus) Presentation of Topic and Discussion

Consecration Service

Benediction

Consecration Service

Following the discussion a summary could be made pointing to the real meaning of the Lordship of Christ. It can further be stressed that nobody does all that he should. There is a need for us periodically to search our hearts and to make new resolves before God.

Slips of paper could be provided so that each could write a promise of a new determination on the slip. Names should not be signed. After the slips are collected, they could be burned. Stress that this is really a covenant between each person and Christ.

For the Leader

Prepare yourself well for the meeting by reading John 1:35-41 and the suggested daily readings in the Bible. Show how men need a saviour today. This may be seen in many of our social problems such as delinquency, crime, divorce, and indifference to responsibilities.

You might contrast the question of Cain "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9) with Andrew's attitude when he felt a deep responsibility toward his brother. It should be pointed out that man first must come to know God before he has a proper attitude toward his fellow men.

This lesson is one which deals with personal salvation. Here are several questions which should be discussed.

What Is the Source of Salvation?

Many people say, "If I could only forgive myself!" This is very difficult for any of us to do. And if we could, its sufficiency would be held in question. A more important question is "Has God forgiven me?" If He has, how can I know that He has? What are the conditions of His forgiveness? Are there some things for which He can never forgive me? If God forgives me, can I go on sinning indefinitely?

*Dr. Bixler is professor of Bible and Christian Education at Northwest Christian College, Eugene, Oregon.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Every Christian should feel a responsibility to bring others to Christ. We also know that there are right and wrong ways to accomplish this. List some things that are good and some that are bad in fulfilling this objective. Discuss more fully.

2. Think of some reasons for your faith in

Christ. Make a list and discuss them together.

- 3. Ministers and church leaders bear witness that there are many church members who go to church for "what they can get out of it." Thus it is difficult to get a large number of church members to assume any responsibility in the church. Evaluate this
- 4. Often young people want to have a good Christian Endeavor group, but it seems that schoolwork and other activities take up so much time that the work of the society is neglected. What can be done about this?
- 5. How do you feel that we can get men to see the real values in Christianity rather than seeing all the sins of Christians?

Salvation has two aspects. The first is its divine side. It is an act of God. God gave His only Son to redeem us. Read John 3:16-21 and Titus 2:11-14; 3:4,5. Man could never redeem himself. Man does not earn salvation by certain religious acts. He is saved by his faith in Iesus Christ. On the other hand, man cannot go on living just as he pleases. (Read Romans 6:15,16).

We may say then that while salvation comes from God, man must avail himself of this salvation by coming to Christ and be-

coming His servant.

How Do We Come to Christ?

Andrew met Jesus in a physical manner. He then went to find his brother. When he found him, he brought him to Jesus. There is some difference and yet some similarity between knowing Jesus in the flesh, as did Andrew and Peter, and our knowing

Let us consider the difference. Jesus was in the flesh at the time Andrew and Peter met Him. Does this mean that because Jesus is not in the flesh today, we cannot come to know Him? No; for when Thomas would not believe in the resurrected Christ, the Lord asked him to feel the nail prints in His hands. And the Scripture bears rec-ord that Thomas believed in Him. Then Jesus said to him, "Have you believed be-cause you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (John

The similarity is that in each case faith is required and that faith comes primarily through the belief of a message. told his brother about the Christ. Peter believed his message and came to Christ.

But this faith is much more than intellectual and verbal assent. It is faith that changes our whole being. It demands our whole being, Man can no longer go on living a self-centered life. It must be lived for God. Paul emphasizes this in I Corinthians 5.14.15. (Read this Soriinture) thians 5:14,15. (Read this Scripture.)

What Does It Mean to Know Chris

Knowing Christ is certainly more the possessing certain information about Hi It is knowing Him as Lord of our lives.

It means, then, that we shall ever se to know His will for our lives more p fectly. This means that we must deve ourselves to becoming acquainted with I Word. It means that we will pray "without

To know Christ as Lord also means the once we have come to know Him we me do everything we can to bring others

To know Christ as Lord means that of our actions in our relationships with of ers must be Christlike. This points out necessity of our constant need of His gra It shows the necessity for coming to G in prayer. Christianity may be concern with some moral principles, but it must more than this. It must be a personal retionship that includes God, Christ, the H Spirit, and our fellow man. The chur is a fellowship of those who are being deemed by God's grace. Thus, if we kn Christ as Lord, we must participate in work of His body, the church.

The Christian does not participate in rellowship of the church because the chur as humanly conceived, "deserves" his se ices. But rather, the Christian participa because he needs to do so in order to kn the real fellowship of the Spirit which come only through such relationships. H he learns the true meaning of love, of I giveness, of compassion, and of grace.

serves because of need.

What Is the Value of Knowing Chri

First, to know Christ gives life an a quate goal. It is a personal goal. Men m live for something. But so many of things for which men live are not conductor real living. Money, pleasure, power, fame command the attention of many to as goals of life. But these goals leave r in despair. Jesus said, "I came that t may have life, and have it abundan (John 10:10)." To a Christian, life me something. His everyday acts have an enal dimension. He is a steward of all t he is and has.

Second, there is value in being a Chris in that it brings redemption. This is true only in regard to past sins, but it m a constant need in man for hope. The Ch tian believes that regardless of what I pens, there is still a way of life open. E the hardships and disappointments are n deterrent to life. "In all these things we more than conquerors through Him loved us" (Romans 8:37). This is a r sage much needed in our day. One of predominant notes in the prevailing lit ture of our day is its pessimism and def ism. Men are seeking a way of life. Jesus still proclaims, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). *Revised Standard Version.

Steps and Stops

Numbers 9:17-23

nior High (12-14 Years)

omoting Your Meeting

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What did God forbid David to do? Why? Read II Samuel 7:1-13.

2. What step did Mordecai ask Queen Esther to take in behalf of her people? Read Esther 4:13-5:3.

3. What enlarged opportunities did Paul have after entering a new mission field in Macedonia? Read Acts 16:12-15; 16:25-33; 17:1-4; 17:10-15; 17:22-34; 18:7-11.

4. What are some of the stops which God commands us to make on our journey of life? 5. What are some of the steps which God

commands us to take as His servants?

Make a poster with part of a road map. ice "Stop" and "Go" signs on one of the ites. Print under it "Steps and Stops for day's Travel." Give time, place, and date your meeting.

Comments by Rev. Edgar L. Mack*

ms of Topic

1. To study the steps and steps of ildren of Israel in their journey to the

omised Land.

2. To consider experiences of others who eded God's commands of steps and stops. 3. To realize the results of observing such

mmands of God today.

ggested Program Outline

e-Prayer Service

all to Worship: Come, let us worship the Lord; let us try to know Him in our lives and learn to follow His ways in our liv-

ymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah horal Reading: Psalm 121

(Leader may discuss God's care and concern for us and compare it with a shepherd leading his sheep beside green pas-tures and still waters.)

Prayer by a Junior High, followed by Lord's Prayer (prayed by the whole group) ymn: O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee cripture: Numbers 9:17-23

ffering

ymn: God's Way My Way eader's Introduction of Topic

opic Presentation losing Moments by the Counselor ymn: Where He Leads Me

llent Prayer losing Thought: Read Matthew 22:37-39

eader's Introduction of Topic

We live in a "go-go" age. Life can be-ome dangerous if proper steps and stops to not taken. Think of how many innocent uildren are killed or injured because a river could not stop his car in time. On ne other hand many persons are lost even hough they are going at breakneck speeds, ecause they fail to follow the correct steps a life. Fruitful Christian living consists of iking steps and stops at God's commands. Success in life is the goal of many people a today's world. But success is empty of the today's world but today's world but to today's commands or the today of th on high a price to pay for success.

When the children of Israel obeyed God,

hey were blessed with safe travel. Diso-edience led to trouble. Our dramatic diaogue will present some guideposts to help outh on today's unlimited spiritual highvays to receive joy, peace, and happiness.

Mr. Mack, pastor of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, Frankfort, Kentucky, is a writer for the Division of Christian Education of his denomination.

Let's Suppose—What Did Happen?

Leader: Suppose the children of Israel had not leaned upon God and trusted His guidance each step of the way. Do you think they would have arrived at the Promised Land?

Junior High: Why, they would have been defeated before they started. The central event in Israel's history is the exodus from Egypt. At the Red Sea God commanded the children of Israel to go forward. They walked through step by step dry-shod. When the chariots of the pursuing troops of Pharaoh attempted to follow, they were hopelessly mired into the sea and drowned. The steps of the children of Israel were guided to safety by God while the troops of Pharaoh were trapped in the sea. Miriam led the women in a song of joy (read Exodus 15:21).

Leader: Suppose the children of Israel had refused to stop when God commanded them to stop. Do you think they would have arrived at the Promised Land through the wilderness? Just what did happen?

Junior High: The period in the wilder-

Junor High: The period in the winderness was long and tiring. It was necessary to stop at God's command. The children of Israel received great rewards by stopping at God's command at Mt. Sinai, at Kadesh,

and many other places.

Another Junior High: At Mt. Sinai Moses received the Ten Commandments, and God entered into a covenant relationship with His people. At Kadesh the children of Israel stopped at God's command, and an abundant water supply was made available to them. They also talked with God. Rest, refreshment, and communion with God were the rewards of stops with God.

Counselor: The wilderness can take many forms in our lives. Sometimes it may seem we have stopped in surroundings unpleasant and hostile. We may meet sickness and defeat. However, God is at work in all circumstances with His creative power.

Leader: Suppose the prophet Amos had stayed in the little village of Tekoah in Judah. Let's see what did happen when he left Tekoah.

Junior High: Amos responded to God's call. Amos spoke for God in the king's chapel. A country preacher went to town to deliver only one message. But what a message! Truth sounded like dynamite to those who were practicing injustice. Here a rough and crude herdsman and trimmer of sycamore trees stood in the rich and lavish king's chapel. He was not a professional prophet nor a member of the school of prophets. Nevertheless, he was seized by the conviction that he must stand up and declare God's word to a corrupt and wicked people.

MARCH 5

Another Junior High: With boldness Amos declared that empty sacrifices could not re-place the primary demand of God for jusplace the primary demand of God for Justice. The priest of the royal chapel, Amaziah, expelled Amos. His ultimatum said, "Go back to your sheep and trees. You don't belong here." The only fear that Amos had was that of not delivering God's word. He was not afraid of the taunts and threats of men.

Leader: Suppose Paul had refused to take steps and stops in his life under God's guidance. Let's see just what Paul did do.

Junior High: Paul was directed to the coast of Troas by the Holy Spirit. Here he stopped. He saw a vision of a man beseeching him, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us." Paul dedicated himself to the call to wider service and went willingly.

Another Junior High: Each stopping place on this second missionary journey proved to be larger than any of the preceding. From Philippi to Thessalonica to Corinth to Ephesus he labored. The last stop proved to be the greatest of all—Rome. Each stop was a successful part of the enlarged field of Paul's work.

Leader: What would happen if we obeyed God's steps and stops in our daily living?

Let's Suppose—What Would Happen?

Junior High: In Psalm 40:1-5, it is stated that our steps are made secure by a steadfast faith in God. Standing on ourselves is like standing on slippery, miry clay. (Read this Scripture.)

Another Junior High: We do not need new laws to insure safe travel toward the Kingdom of God. We already have the Ten Commandments and the new commandment of Christ's spirit of service and love. What we lack most is putting them into practice.

Leader: Suppose we entered wholeheartedly into the worship and service of God. Suppose every youth became a channel of the Spirit of the living God.

Junior High: Great opportunities for Christ and the church would open to us at home and abroad. Each home and each community would become a mission field for our endeavors to enlist others for Him.

Closing Talk by Counselor

Young people are tempted either to run ahead of God or to lag behind God. Walking in step with God and obeying His commands require trust and obedience, patience and a sensitive spirit. Both steps and stops are necessary in the life that is obedient to God's command.

Winsome Witnessing

John 1:42-51

Senior High-Young People

MARCH

Comments by Rev. Robert Hess*

Publicity

For your poster, use one of the following titles: Where is your mission field? Wanted—fellows and girls for Christ! Where will eternity find these? Either gather photographs of teen-agers or cut out heads of youth from magazines and put them appropriately on the prefer. priately on the poster.

Properties

Secure samples of tracts and Scripture memory courses. Navigators, Inc., Colorado Springs, Colorado, is a good source for the latter. Moody Press, 820 North LaSalle Street, Chicago 10, Illinois, has a little folder entitled "Selected Texts for Personal Workers" at 1c each which might be distributed to all who attend.

Consult your minister for samples of Gospel tracts. "Tracts and Their Uses" by Tom M. Olson is available free from LeTourneau Evangelistic Center, Tract Department, P. O. Box 2307, Longview, Texas. State the number of copies wanted.

Two folders from the International Society of the Control of the Control

Two folders from the International Society, "What Is Evangelism?" and "How to Win Youth," will be helpful at 35c per dozen or \$2.50 per hundred.

Place these materials on a display table, and also have sample books from a nearby Christian book store and your minister's

Worship Center

Above the items placed on the table, hang a picture of the Good Shepherd reaching for the sheep that was lost. As the youth leave the meeting room later, have the picture on a special standard where all may see it as they go.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service Leader's Introduction Hymns: Choose hymns related to soul win-

ning or missions

Prayer Scripture Reading: John 1:42-51

Topic Discussion

Questionnaire Closing Hymn Sentence Prayers

Leader's Introduction

"Why should I witness for Christ? That's the sort of thing ministers and missionaries are supposed to do. Most kids I know go to church anyhow, and what I would have to say wouldn't change them! Why I'd be called a fanatic if I went around talking

about Christ and passing out tracts . . "
Is this what a true follower of Christ would say? Let's examine our own thoughts and discover what we think about witnessing for Christ!

*Mr. Hess is field secretary of the California Christian Endeavor Union.

An Actual Situation

The buzzing of voices and banging of locker doors were heard in the halls of Ivy High as the noon bell found kids scurrying for food. In the band room sat Bill, chin in hands, with heart and mind absorbed in thought. Draped over another chair was Ted, waiting quietly for his friend to speak.

For several weeks, Ted had been talking to Bill about his need to receive Christ as his Saviour. He had given him some tracts to read, told him a little at a time what Christ meant to him, and invited Bill to come with him to church.

After band practice on this Friday, Bill had invited Ted to join a bunch of fellows in a jam session that night. Ted's reply that he wouldn't be able to go brought the question "Why?" And then Ted proceeded to really lay out what it meant to be a Chris-

There was silence for a little while (it seemed like an eternity) until Bill finally asked, "Ted, what must I do to become a

Christian?'

Ted was prepared at this point to take out his New Testament and suggested that bill read John 1:12 for himself. Other verses followed, and then the two boys knelt to pray. Bill asked the Lord to forgive him, and he promised to come to church with Ted to be baptized.

Group Discussion

Discuss some of the characteristics of Ted as a soul winner. Assign the following verses from the Bible to be read with com-

- John 3:3,5 (be born again). Romans 8:14 (be led by the Spirit). I Peter 3:15 (have reason for be-
- ing a Christian).
 I Thessalonians 5:17 (know the reality of prayer).
 5. Psalm 51:10 (have a clean heart).
- Acts 4:12 (know that Christ is suf-
- ficient for every need).
 Romans 3:23 (believe that men are lost without Christ).
- Romans 10:1 (have a love for souls). Hebrews 4:12 (trust the power of God's Word)
- 10. Matthew 10:16 (be tactful).

Dialogue about Excuses

Make arrangements some time before the meeting for a fellow and a girl to present this dialogue. They will probably need the assistance of the counselor or the minister in making preparations.

Introduce them as just having come from a midweek service at their church where the youth minister discussed with them the implications of Luke 19:10 (read this verse). At the home of the girl, they are discussing the matter of winning others to Christ. The fellow is full of excuses, and the girl tries

to give an answer to them.

Among the list of excuses which is developed might be the following:

Most of my friends go to church. Not everybody can be a soul winner. It's hard to witness for Christ at sch

I might make a mistake.

I don't know where to find the reverses in the Bible.

I don't know how to answer the an ments they give.

My friends would make fun of me.

Testimonies

Ask each person to tell what influen him to accept Christ as his Saviour. I haps some will mention the witness o friend, a sermon by the minister, the pact of a tract or some other piece of lite ture, or somebody's prayer, This should e phasize that there are many ways by wh a youth can win another to Christ.

Questionnaire

Pass out a questionnaire with such qu' tions as these:

How many young people do you m daily?

How many do not attend church as where?

How many of them are really Christia How many of them know what they me do in order to be saved?

Do your close friends know what it is believe in Jesus Christ?

How many in your own family red know Christ as Lord and Saviour? Do you have any neighbors who are in Christians?

Ask all to use the back of the sheet make a personal list of the names of the for whom they should pray daily. If the is not time in the meeting, suggest that the list be made at home.

Other Techniques for Meeting

Have a panel discussion on ways to wness for Christ. These questions might for witnessing at school? What does one in the biology class? Should a Christi make opportunities to witness? Where a when should one present tracts? How c one tell when it is best to speak abo Christ to others?

Make a list of methods to use in witne ing. This list, which might be written the chalkboard, should include invitation to church; holding services in mission jails, or rest homes; distributing tracts; methods of the control of the orizing Scriptures; writing letters.

Ask your counselor or minister to discu how to use the Gospel tracts available, study thoroughly one of the folders list above under Properties.

Ask the society members to write in the own words how they would tell anoth what he must do to be saved. This mig be done in buzz groups which would gi a written report to the entire society. single report might be developed in t meeting, or later by the Lookout Committee and reported back to all and reported back to all.

"The Word Was God"

No. 1 in a Series: "The Bible Testifies of Christ"

John 1:1-5.14: John 10:27-33

unior High (12-14 Years)

Comments by Dr. Jerome DeJong*

Vorship Suggestions

This portion of the service should exalt esus Christ as the Son of God. Such hymns All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name; Holy, toly, Holy; and More Like the Master re appropriate. Poems and prayers and pecial music might also be used to exalt hrist.

ntroducing the Topic

Jesus once asked His audience a rather tartling question. He said, "What think ye of Christ? Whose son is he?" (Matthew 22:42). This question concerned all the iope and the expectation of the Jewish peo-ole. They all eagerly awaited the coming of the Christ, for He was the Redeemer God had promised. All the scribes knew, by careful Scriptural study, that the Christ was to be born of David. So they quickly answered, "The son of David." Jesus further asked then why David called Him Lord. Surely a father would not in the Hebrew tradition consider his son his superior. The people to whom the question was directed did not ask any more questions. This was the mystery which none of them could

It must be immediately evident that there is something about Jesus that is so unique and different that to speak of Him as a good man or a great prophet does not satisfy our

understanding.

The Testimony of the Witnesses

(The leader should assign the readings to various members. Have them read in numerical order. Each text requires some explanation. The leader may choose to give this explanation, or the individual reading the text.)

- (1) Matthew 9:34. This begins our study. The Pharisees said Jesus was a devil and cast out devils by His own power. Read Jesus' refutation of this argument in Matthew 12:25-29.
- (2) Mark 2:7. Who can forgive sins but God? No one. Anyone who claims, therefore, to forgive sins must be a blasphemer, the scribes said.
- (8) John 9:24. A man who was born blind could suddenly see. How? This ques-tion really annoyed the Pharisees. Obviously Jesus was only a sinner Himself! Read here also Hebrews 4:15.
- (4) John 3:2. A great man among the Jews came to see the great teacher. Indeed, Jesus was just that, but more.
- (5) John 9:17. Think here of Moses, Elijah, and Elisha. Jesus too was a prophet, for He knew the will and the purpose of
- *Dr. DeJong is minister of the Immanuel Re-formed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

(6) Mark 6:14. A prophet is a great person, but a risen prophet an even greater. Jesus was considered to be John the Baptist come back from the dead.

(7) John 9:33. Here again is a testimony of the man born blind. Each time he came a little closer to the truth. Jesus is of God.

(8) Matthew 16:16. This is the testimony that shakes the world. Jesus is the promised Messiah, the Anointed One.

(9) John 20:28. "My God." Here is Jesus' highest designation in the Gospels.

The Testimony of Contemporaries

(It would be very interesting to have members of your society interview people of varying backgrounds and of different points of view. Ask these people what they think of Jesus. Here are a few samples. Or you might have several young people take the role of the persons speaking.)

- (1) A man of Jewish religion. "I believe in the Old Testament Scriptures. The greatest of all the prophets was Moses. The Psalms and the prophets testify of someone who was to come. I believe that Isaiah 53 refers to the remnant of our race. Perhaps the writer meant more. As to Jesus, I be-lieve He was a fine rabbi. A little fanatic, pernaps, but a fine spiritual leader. He claimed to be the Messiah, or at least His followers did, but so did others. We still look for the Messiah. Jesus was a fine man and a good rabbi, but of course not the Messiah!"
- (2) A man on the street. "Yes, Jesus was a fine man. I'm all for Him. This business of the golden rule is fine. Yes, sir, I believe He had a great deal to do with the uplift of humanity. Whether He was God or Saviour, I really don't know. You'd better ask some preacher. But He was a good
- (3) The liberal. "I believe in Jesus Christ. He was a noble example and teacher. His martyr's death was an example for all of us as to how we ought to live and die. He was a master artisan in the craft of living. He was godlike. He has the spark of the divine within Him as we all do.
- (4) The evangelical Christian. (If you wish, you may use a few minutes here for testimonies about Christ. The basic question is "What does Jesus mean to me?")

Who Is Jesus Really?

(Have someone read John 1:1-5,14.) Jesus also said, "Before Abraham was, I am." This refers, of course, to the pre-existence of Jesus. In other words, we are to remember that Bethlehem does not mark the birth of the Son of God, for He is eternal. There is no beginning or end in the life of Jesus Christ. It is also instructive for all young people to see that this same passage connects Jesus inseparably with creation. "All things were made by Him." God creates through His Son, Jesus Christ. It must therefore be obvious that there is something very unique about the person and work of Jesus Christ.

The Daily Reading for Wednesday (read Colossians 1:12-18) tells us that Jesus Christ is the integrating power of the universe. In Him all things "hold together." It is In Him all things "hold together." It is thrilling to consider the great power of our Lord Jesus and His relation to the created world. Jesus also said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30). There are many Bible scholars who do not believe that the Bible says much about the deity of Jesus. These few illustrations show us that to deny this doctrine is to be blind to the plain teaching of the Bible. Our Daily Bible Readings give further evidence about His deity, and we shall now hear these readings. (See page 18.)

The Biblical Witnesses

MARCH 12

Read Monday's Daily Reading. How can anyone doubt that Jesus is the Christ when we have opportunity to examine His works? Let us list some of the works of Jesus that

especially testify to His deity.

Read Tuesday's Daily Reading. What in the words of Jesus was of special significance? What are some of the statements of Jesus that have special reference to His

deity?

Read Saturday's Daily Reading. the witness of the Holy Spirit. He must testify in our hearts. To confess Jesus as God is possible only through the operation of God's Holy Spirit.

Read Friday's Daily Reading. This is only a sampling of the witness of the

prophets. We all know that there are many more Scripture passages dealing with the deity of Jesus in the prophets. Let us make a list of others.

Read Wednesday's Daily Reading. Again this is only a sample, because all the apostles testified to the deity of Jesus Christ. How do you believe the church stands as a per-Jesus? This is important to consider, for there are those who do not believe it is necessary to be a part of the church to be a Christian. How does the church witness for Christ?

What Does All This Mean?

This is the crux of the matter. Perhaps all of us agree that Jesus is God made flesh. But what difference does it make in our lives? Let us discuss some of the differences it should make to all of us.

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive red and white paper cover, contains 113 songs and hymns for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Price: 50c each, \$5 per dozen, \$40 per hundred.



I'm So Happy!

Ephesians 5:19,20; Philippians 4:4-7

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

MARCH

Comments by Dr. W. W. McKinney*

Promoting the Meeting

Call this meeting a Happiness Party. Appoint as leader some popular member of the Social Committee. Advertise the meeting with numerous signs, displaying in large letters the topic "I'm So Happy." Stimulate attendance by visiting the Sunday school classes and displaying a poster which might read, "I'm So Happy! Why? Come to C. E. tonight and discover the secret." Demonstrate your happiness with a radiant smile and an enthusiastic invitation to attend the Happiness Party. Have all members of the Social Committee on hand to welcome members and guests with a happy cordial greet-

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service

Instrumental Prelude: Medley of Lively

Hymns

Song Period

Scriptural Roll Call: Using passages which emphasize the themes of joy and thanks-

Hymn: In the Service of the King Scripture: Ephesians 5:19,20; Philippians

4:4-7

Prayer Period

Announcements and Offering Hymn: If Your Heart Keeps Right Leader's Introduction

Discussion by Four Speakers Question and Answer Period

Hymn: Sunshine in the Soul Closing Prayer and Benediction

Leader's Introduction

The Christian is the happiest individual in the world. If he isn't happy, he isn't a true Christian. There is no happiness which equals "the joy of salvation." We need to stress that fact in our meeting tonight. Our invitation to receive Christ should always be an invitation to share in a joyous fellow-ship. Joyously we sing, "I am happy in the service of the King."

Too often non-Christians imagine that the

Christian life implies the loss of all earthly joy. They assume that it is an unnatural, gloomy, solemn, strait-laced sort of life which can be enjoyed only by persons of a very peculiar disposition, never by a healthy

boy or girl.

To combat that mistaken notion, Jesus phrased many of His parables as invitations to attend a festival of joy. In one parable it is a great supper. In another it is a wedding festival. Again it is the marriage feast of the king's own son. Jesus desired all of us to realize that His invitation to enter the Kingdom of Heaven is an invitation to enter a kingdom of true happiness.

One may review ever so carefully our Lord's teaching, and he will find Him using

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QUESTIONS

- 1. Why are some church members referred
- to as "long-faced Christians"?
 2. Why should converted sinners be happy in their new lives?
- 3. What hymns do you enjoy singing most? Why?

numerous figures of joy. He would have us realize that the Christian life is a life of joy and gladness. It results in the most enduring happiness possible for young and old in this present world. Four of our members will now discuss aspects of our joy in Christ's fellowship.

The Joy of Living

Listen to the first verse of the hymn *This Is My Father's World.* (Read it from the hymnal.) Truly God, the supreme Creator, has planned and developed a beautiful, happy world. Man may at times spoil the beauty or productivity of the earth. He may temporarily check the joy of living by wars, strikes, and economic depressions. But God still pays extra dividends in bountiful harvests, in the beauty of the sunrise and sunset, and the song of feathery-throated choristers. His factories are run-ning day and night producing in abundance the roses, the moonlight, the perfumes, the flowers, and an infinite variety of lovely

Because some people's definition of joy is only the thrill of excitement, they fail to experience the true joy of living. The Christian prefers the joys that last and remain untarnished as the years pass. He wisely discards the pleasures which wear out in a few years, especially those that leave behind when they disappear reminiscences of cha-

The Christian is not denied any joy in life. He is free to enjoy everything that is good for him. Nothing is wrong for a Christian which opens to him any actual, sub-stantial, and unselfish enjoyment. All the pleasure that Christianity ever shuts a man away from is short-range, counterfeit pleas-

The Joy of Sharing

As the Gospel song expresses it, "Just to see a saved man smile makes the effort well worthwhile." Our greatest happiness comes from sharing. We rejoice to share our best things with those whom we love. It was Jesus who taught us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Yes, he who would selfishly save his life shall lose it. Selfishness is destructive of happiness. The miser is a burden both to himself and to others. Getting by giving, saving by losing is the apparently paradoxical truth which is proved over and over in the Christian's experience. Naturally, then, our greatest happiness comes from sharing our choicest treasures, our experiences in Christ. We rejoice to tell others of the great things the Lord has done

Happiness is contagious and easily share The radiant, happy Christian spreads ch and sunlight wherever he goes. Oliver W dell Homes quoted this brief epitaph o tombstone at Mt. Auburn cemetery, "was so pleasant." Those four words rethe music of a life that could not fail charm and uplift all who were privileged meet her. God has done so much for He has showered us with so many blessi that our hearts should abound with a that brightens the lives of all with whom

The Joy of Singing

Moody and Sankey, Torrey and Alex der, Billy Sunday and Rodeheaver, B Graham and Shea: these names of fam evangelists and their equally famous so leaders are so closely associated together our minds that they seem like compou words. Nor can we tell which is more eff tive in winning souls to Christ, the ev gelist or the Gospel song leader. Both essential. We love to sing the great hyr of the church and the well-known Gos songs. (Read again Ephesians 5:20.)

(Study and report to the group so interesting facts on the background of hymns sung in Christian Endeavor meeting Many interesting stories of the spirit effectiveness of widely used songs hymns are found in *Practical Hymn Stud* by Edmund S. Lorenz. Christians have agreed on their creeds and have organize themselves into separate denomination. They remain united in their hymns joyously sing their musical testimonies united song.)

The Joy of Worship

"L was glad when they said unto me, us go into the house of the Lord," testii the psalmist (Psalm 122:1). "Rejoice in Lord always: and again I say, rejoic "Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye land Praise and thanksgiving are essential pa of worship. We rejoice to praise God all He has done for us. The note of must always be uppermost in our worsh

Recently a Pittsburgh businessman offe this testimony to the rewarding influe of worship: "I like to go to church beca I find in its worship and ordinances calm and the quiet that my soul needs at the toils and cares of a busy week. In holy atmosphere of God's house, I can me tate upon the eternal realities as the no and turmoil of the outside world are s off. Here I meet God and hold fellows with Him in prayer and praise. His W fills my soul with longing for a closer w with Him. The music of the choir and c I am fortified against the difficulties of coming week." He was glad he could waship God in church and rejoiced to courage others to go.

"Behold the Man!"

No. 2 in a Series: "The Bible Testifies of Christ"

Luke 2:52: John 19:1-5

unior High (12-14 Years)

Comments by Rev. Harry A. Shuster, Jr.*

ounseling the Counselor

Help the topic discussion leader discover e progression of thought in the topic de-

First, the problem in a young person's

storted view of Jesus, the man.

Secondly, a true portrayal of Jesus from e teachings of the Scriptures and from e teachings of the church.

Thirdly, an application of these truths to

ints for Programming

To develop the topic fully, time will be eded. Therefore, keep the devotions to minimum. Center the devotions around the theme of Christ. During the prayer me, ask the society members to express hat Christ means to them and has done r them in a prayer of thanksgiving.

pic Discussion

ow to Prepare

Read through the entire topic discussion, iscover both the aim and the method of ilfilling that aim. Be certain to make any signments two weeks in advance of the

Ask one young person to investigate the atement in the Apostles' Creed or the atement in the denomination's statement forth which wateries to Learn Chairman. faith which pertains to Jesus Christ. Ask tother young person to investigate the teaning of the name "Jesus." Ask the pastor some history teacher to report upon the trly church's defense against the Gnostic

eretical teachings which denied the true umanity of Jesus.

Secure as many different pictures of Christ s you can. Christ and the Fine Arts has lany classical pictures. Jacques Barosin, contemporary artist, has portrayed his idea f Christ; these pictures can be secured om The Christian Education Press, Philaelphia, Pennsylvania. If possible, get pic-ures which you can pin on a bulletin board to that all of them can be seen by the total

roup at one time.

Ask the group to concentrate on the varius portraits of Christ. Then ask, "What leas about Christ do these pictures portray? What kind of a man do they tell you He

In addition to or instead of the pictures, resent the following statements made by oung people on different occasions: "Jesus seems like a sissy so many times,

voiding arguments and fights on every oc-

"If Jesus were God, how could He be uman too?"
"If Jesus were merely a man, how could "If Jesus were merely a man, how could le perform so many miracles?"

Mr. Shuster is minister of Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church of Palmerton, Pennsylvania.

THE AIMS

1. To consider the truth that Jesus was not only divine, but also human.

2. To correct some misconceptions about Jesus as the Son of man.

3. To apply truth about Jesus' humanity to Christian living today.

After the members have fully expressed themselves, divide the young people into three small discovery groups.

The first group will be given the following Scripture passages which refer to the birth and youth of Jesus Christ: John 1:1,14; Matthew 1:18; 2:11; 13:55; Luke

The second group will investigate the following passages which refer to the normal human attributes experienced by Christ: Matthew 4:2; 8:24; Mark 3:5; 10:21; Luke 4:1,2; John 19:28; 4:6.

The third group will examine those human characteristics experienced by Jesus in the closing hours of His life as contained in Luke 22:44 and John 19:1-30; 19:34.

Allow the groups about fifteen minutes to investigate the assigned passages and to list the human characteristics experienced by Jesus.

How to Proceed

Have the young person who investigated his own church's statement of faith or the Apostles' Creed give his report at this time.

The person who reports on the meaning of the name given to the holy infant by the of the name given to the holy infant by the angel will report next. He should discover that the name "Jesus" is a human name in contrast to the word "Christ" which is a title. Jesus was the name used for Him during the rite of circumcision. In the Hebrew form the name means "Joshua." Jesus was the name by which He was known among His friends. The people once asked, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know?" The blind man said that a man called Jesus anointed man said that a man called Jesus anointed his eyes. The beggar addressed Him as "Jesus, thou son of David." Today the little child in the nursery class sings Jesus Loves Me while his parents in the adult department sing The Name of Jesus. When we say, "I believe in Jesus," we are saying that we believe in the humanity of Jesus Christ.

After these reports, have Group I give After these reports, have Group I give its report. You will point out the following characteristics as this group reports and make a list of them on the chalkboard: He had a human parent; He was born of woman, Mary; He was born in the flesh; He matured normally—intellectually, physitistically. cally, spiritually, and socially.

You will follow the same procedure with Group II as it gives its report. You will discover that Jesus was thirsty, tired and hungry, that He was tempted as we are, that He loved people, and that He became angry with them.

MARCH 19

The third Group will report the various ways in which Jesus suffered and that in the end He died. In connection with the findings of this group, describe Jesus the man with a crown of thorns thrust down upon His head, causing streams of blood to flow down across His cheeks and mat His beard. Picture Him with the dirty, sweaty purple robe thrown across His body, a robe stained by the blood oozing from the wounds upon His back.

Now have the pastor or history teacher give a very brief resume of the early church's fight against the Gnostic teaching which denied the true humanity of Jesus.

Now you will want to lead the group further in its discovery. Begin with this statement, "Jesus Christ came to earth not only to reveal more completely what God is like, but also to reveal to us what God expects us to be like." Ask someone to read Ask someone to read again the statement from Luke 2:52. Again emphasize that Jesus matured intellectually (in wisdom), physically (in stature), spiritually (in favor with God), and socially (in favor with man).

Here then is a clue as to the way in which God wants man to mature. In each of these areas of growth consider some of the ways in which all can mature.

For example, within the area of intellectual maturity, some suggestions might include: concentrating upon the subject being studied instead of trying to study with the television or radio on, and studying with the motivation of gaining knowledge in contrast to getting good grades.

Within the area of spiritual maturity, the ideas might include participating in the worship experience in contrast to merely going to church, discovering what God is saying in a few verses of His Word in contrast to merely reading a chapter of the Bible, discussing the application of Christian truths and principles to problems and social evils, and being alert to God's guidance and direction throughout life.

Within the area of physical growth, the suggestions might include: being careful to suggestions linguit metatics being careful to follow the usual habits of health, eating well-balanced meals in contrast to quick lunch of chips and soda, discovering the reason for the bodily changes which are taking place in contrast to being ignorant about the whole matter, and being careful not to abuse our bodies nor allowing others to abuse them.

Within the area of social maturity, some suggestions might involve the whole area of personality development: how to make friends, how to keep one's own personal high standards without appearing to be standoffish and "holier than thou."

How to Conclude

Set aside time for quiet reflection and ask all to reconsecrate themselves to God in the light of what they have learned. Conclude with sentence prayers.



Changing Tunes

Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:8-10; 15:12-15 (Palm Sunday)

Senior High-Young People (15-24 Years)

MARCH .

Comments by Dr. Samuel S. Haas*

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service Call to Worship: Psalm 32:10,11 Hymn: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Invocation Scripture: Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:8-10;

15:12-15

Sentence Prayers

Announcements and Offering

Topic Presentation

Service of Dedication (Begin with the Christian Endeavor Pledge. Then form a prayer circle praying first for the one on the left, then for the one on the right, then for oneself to be steadfast and true to Christ, the King. Conclude with the singing of the hymn Have Thine Own Way, Lord.) Benediction

Purpose

To understand what Christ as our King means and what He expects of us as His subjects.

Characteristic of Our Time

If one were asked to characterize our times in terms of a word, he would not be far from right if he should say "change." Especially is this evident in the area of things and people. Industry thrives on the practice of "calculated obsolescence." It prospers on this principle because it caters to and encourages the fickleness that has gained the mastery of the vast majority of our people who really do not know what they want. It is true of every realm of life, even religion.

Palm Sunday

This day emphasizes the kingship of Jesus Christ. When Jesus entered the Holy City riding on an ass, the symbol of peace and royalty, He was deliberately announcing His right to assume another of the three sacred offices of the Messiah as set forth in the Old Testament. These were: Prophet, Priest, and King. During His ministry He proclaimed Himself a prophet (Luke 13: 33) and was recognized as such by the people (Matthew 21:11, 46). The priestly office He would fulfill with His intercession for the people (John 17) and His sacrificial death (Hebrews 5:1-10). However, on this day it was His right to rule over the Kingdom of God that He was announced. ing, an office promised the Messiah in the Old Testament (Jeremiah 23:5,6; Zechariah 9:9). This the people recognized as their song reveals for they sang, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed be He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!"

But many of these people were fickle too. A few days later they were to change their tune, and instead of acclaiming Him as their King, they thirsted for His blood shouting, "Crucify him!"

*Dr. Haas is professor of Hebrew and Old Testament studies at Bloomfield College and Seminary, Bloomfield, New Jersey.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. In what ways can we truly demonstrate our reverence for Christ which we may not be doing now?

2. Do our actions correspond with our profession of faith in such areas as friendship, the home, school or place of employment, use of our time and money?

3. Do we try to discover what Jesus, the King, commands us to do in different situ-

ations? If so, how?

Christ as Our King

Christ has the right to rule since He came to establish the Kingdom of God in the hearts of men and to maintain it until its final triumph over the kingdoms of this world (Philippians 2:10,11; Revelation 11: 15). Not only has Christ the right to rule but the gifts as well. Endowed with infinite wisdom, patient understanding, abiding love, He rules as a goodly King whose words are truth, whose commands are honorable, and whose judgments are righteous altogether.

Christ, as King, protects those who are His faithful subjects. As the Psalmist, with a different figure of speech, to be sure, but just as valid in this connection, proclaims out of his experience, "I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me" (Psalm 23:4). He who successfully withstood the wiles of Satan, conquered death and the grave, and has been exalted to the right hand of God has promised to share His power and vic-tory with each and all who will accept Him as the sole ruler in the citadel of the

Christ, as King, perfects His subjects until at last they stand before God renewed in His likeness and remade in His image (Jude 24). The Christian life is a continually growing life or, as Paul phrases it, a foot race (Philippians 3:12-14). We must persevere to the end if we would at last attain our goal. Who better can strengthen our determination and empower our efforts to be crowned with victory than Jesus to be crowned with victory than Jesus Christ, our triumphant King?

Subjects of the King

While we can confidently trust in Christ, our King, for holy and just commands, protection from the powers and forces that would undo us, and an ever holier and purer heart and mind, as subjects we have certain duties and responsibilities which alone can make Christ's rule in our lives

As His subjects we pledge our obedience, not when we feel like it, but always. Obedience to a King so wise, so just, so good, so loving is the source of our greatest joy, the wisest exercise of our free will, the surest way of developing an attractive and win-some personality. Such obedience is by no means easy. It demands every moment of time, every effort of will because of the

constant pull of worldly voices and attra

As His subjects we pledge our servi-Service is obedience in action. It is doi what we say we believe and stand for. is easy to say, "Yes." But if that respondents anything, it will be followed by deeds it represents. In this connection would be well to recall what Jesus sabout this. (See Matthew 7:21.) It wo also be well to note how Jesus is describely one who knew Him intimately, Pet (See Acts 10:38.)

As His subjects we pledge our reveren His purity of being and exaltedness of p son, His redeeming love and abiding co cern for each of us demand the holiest reverence and noblest of honor that a man can show. Such reverence is show by glad worship of Him in His sanctua: a holy use of His name and a sincere w a not use of this name and a sincere we nessing for Him on the other days of tweek. To show reverence to Christ as Ki requires that humbleness of spirit whi acknowledges complete dependence up Him, that devotion and love that deligi to be in His presence always, and ti gratitude which forms upon the lips a so of thanksgiving and opens the hand liberality in support of the needs of t Kingdom's work.

Conclusion

Palm Sunday reminds us that Christ the ruler of the realm He came to establi in the hearts of men and through His su jects in the world. As King, He is ronly worthy but has a right to expect those who acknowledge Him as such ready obedience, self-sacrificing service, a a sincere reverence. Unless these characteristics terize our living every day, then we sh be as fickle and guilty as many of the that first Palm Sunday who welcomed H so gladly, yet just as readily cried, "Cruci him" on the morrow. Christ comes to y anew this day as your King. How are y receiving Him?

Illustration

During one of the battles between Isra and Philistia, David and his soldiers, aft a hard day's fight, found refuge in a mou tain cave. Tired and thirsty, David long for a taste of water out of the well Bethlehem. No sooner had he spoken the words than three of his soldiers went for fought their way through the enemy's line secured their king's desire, and brought twater to him. At the risk of their liv they had done this, simply because the king had expressed such a desire. It was the secure of the risk of their lives the risk of their lives had been a desire. It was the risk of the risk not a command. It was merely a yearni for water that could have been secur more easily elsewhere and with less dang But so devoted were they to their kinthat his slightest wish was for them a conmand, and they gladly rendered the service How much more should Christ, the Kit of Kings, have a claim upon our devotiand service.

"Christ Died for Our Sins"

No. 3 in a Series: "The Bible Testifies of Christ"

John 19:31-42 (Palm Sunday)

nior High (12-14 Years)

MARCH 26



Comments by Rev. C. Ray Miller*

the Leader

he topic for consideration this evening ne that can very well be presented under heading "You Are There." Undoubtedly, are acquainted with the program by title which often broadcasts great hiscal events as though they were happenat this very moment.

Why not present the various parts of the cifixion story as if they too were hap-

ing at this moment?

t will be necessary to plan the program advance with a large number of partici-nts. If desired, you may study the back-and Scriptures and then tell about them your introduction. Ask several members your group to tell various parts of the ry as if they are actually seeing them open. You may be able even to arrange some to assume the parts of the various tracters and to tell what happened in ir own words. Whatever the exact means d, help all to see the crucifixion happen! At the close, perhaps you will be able extend an invitation for those who have done so to accept Christ and to receive giveness of their sins. Consult your tor, and maybe he will be able to attend to participate in the invitation.

Or perhaps you will want to point to evening service of the congregation as opportunity to accept Christ. Make your ns with your counselor and your pastor. the Lookout Committee to make a cial effort to invite non-Christian youth attend and to talk with them about acting Christ.

ggested Program Outline

e-Prayer Service elude

ll to Worship: Psalm 92:1,2

ocation mn: The Old Rugged Cross

nouncements and Offering ripture Lesson: John 19:31-42 Leyer Hymn: Are Ye Able, Said the Master ent Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

ecial Music pic Presentation mn: Give of Your Best to The Master

yers of Consecration

ader's Introduction

Today, on this first day of Holy Week, are bringing back to life the story of trial and crucifixion of Jesus. We shall ar this story as if it were happening at sery moment. We shall see not only us, but also several others who were inved in His trial and crucifixion. Let us vel together to the land of Palestine in time of Jesus.

r. Miller is minister of the Prince Street United ethren Church, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.

Herod (Luke 9:7-9)

Herod has heard of all that Jesus is doing His miracles, His teachings, and His followers. Herod is perplexed because of Him and the opinions of others concerning Him. Some are saying that He is Elijah, somethat He is John the Baptist, and some that one of the old prophets has risen from the dead. Because of this, Herod is greatly concerned and desires to see Him.

A desire to see Jesus is very important. Many are still interested in Him. But the question should be asked, "Why do you wish to see Him?" Some are interested out of curiosity, some want what only Jesus can give, and some want to serve Him completely. Why are *you* interested in Jesus?

Peter (Luke 9:18-22)

The disciples are asked by Jesus what the people are thinking about Him. They give Him the various opinions of people. then the various opinions of people. Then He asks them a very personal question, "But who say ye that I am?" Peter, the spokesman for the group, replies, "The Christ of God." The Lord is pleased with this answer, and Peter is commended for having answered as he did.

Let us pause and realize that these two postions are being asked of us also. "Who questions are being asked of us also. "Who do men say that I am?" is the first of these two great questions; the second is "Who do you say that I am?"

It is not a matter of what others are thinking and doing, but rather a very personal matter. Some people said He was a good man, some that He went about doing good, and some paid other compliments to Him. However, the thing that He requires of us is not a compliment, but a commit-ment to Him. We should act now because of what it will mean to our lives now and Will you let Him in or shut Him out? Will you confess Him or deny Him? Will you be for Him or against Him?

Pilate (Matthew 27:19-28)

Jesus is standing before Pilate, or perhaps it is best to say that Pilate is, in reality, on trial before Jesus. He has to make a decision with the realization that the man called Jesus is a just man. Pilate, like many of us, is listening to the crowd. They cry, "Crucify him!" So he takes water and washes his hands before the great crowd about him and then says, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person." He knows that Jesus is a good man, and yet he releases Barabbas, a robber, and delivers Jesus to be crucified.

People today crucify Jesus by refusing to receive Him. Others are committing this terrible crime by disobeying Him, and some by neglecting Him.

At the trial they mock Jesus by putting a scarlet robe upon His body, a crown of thorns upon His head, a reed in His hand. They bow down to Him and cry, "Hail, King of the Jews!'

People today mock Him when they don't receive Him, when they let other things inreceive Hills, when they let other things in-terfere and keep them from worshiping Him, and when they put their desires ahead of His. We sometimes sing these words, "King of our lives by Thy grace we will be," and then we seemingly act as though we don't mean it by failing to pray as we ought, to read the Bible, to give, to observe the Lord's Day, and to witness for Him.

The Thief (Luke 23:39-43)

Two other persons are crucified with lesus, one on each side of Him. The one cries out to Him, "If thou be Christ, save thyself and us." The other realizes that he himself is receiving his due reward, but he knows fully that Jesus should not be in the same situation because He "hath done nothing amiss." The thief knows a wrong-doer when he sees one and knows that Jesus is not of this class.

As you look upon Him in His suffering which was great in the garden, greater at the judgment hall, and even greater on the Cross, how do you feel toward Him?

The Centurion (Mark 15:39)

"Truly this was the Son of God" is the cry of the centurion who stands by watching Jesus die. He has seen many people die and undoubtedly realizes that none of them wanted to die.

Death often reveals what a man really is, and he has probably watched many as they have come to this point. But in this instance things seem to be so different. Jesus Christ is intent on the needs of others and Christ is intent on the needs of others and the will of God even to the very end. Listen to Him as He says, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do . . . Today shalt thou be with Me in paradise . . . Woman, behold thy son! . . . My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me? . . . I thirst . . . It is finished . . . Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit."

Closing

What an impact He makes upon those who are present at this event. As we look upon Him, are we critical? Do we mock Him? Are we helping to crucify Him? Or do we cry out, "Truly this was the Son of God"?

Jesus gave His life that we might live forever. He died that we might have eternal life. May we respond to His invitation to come to Him; to believe on Him; and to receive eternal life through Him.

(Now you will want to extend the invitation to accept Christ or to refer to the invitation during the congregational service to follow.)

Daily Bible Readings for Your Quiet Hour

Here are the daily Bible readings selected for use in connection with the weekly Christian Endeavor topics for March, 1961. These particular selections have been chosen because they give valuable food for thought in connection with the topic for the Sunday to follow.

These readings are grouped together on one page in order that Endeavorers may easily use them. Why not clip out this section and place it in your Bible, ready for your daily Quiet Hour observance.



Junior High (Intermediate) **Daily Readings**

- M., Feb. 27. A King's Limitation.

 T., Feb. 28. A Queen's Opportunity.

 Esther 4:13-5:3.

 W., Mar. 1. A Prophet's Call. Amos 7:14-17.

 T., Mar. 2. A Missionary's Field Enlarged.

 Acts 16:5-10.

 F., Mar. 3. Our Steps Established.
- F., Mar. 5. Our Steps Established.

 Psalm 40:1-5.

 S., Mar. 4. Steps Ordered by the Lord.

 Psalm 37:23-31.

 Sun., Mar. 5. Topic—Steps and Stops. Num-
- bers 9:17-23.
- M., Mar. 6. Christ's Works Prove His Deity.
 John 10:37,38.
 T., Mar. 7. Christ's Words Prove His Deity.
 John 14:7-11.
 W., Mar. 8. The Apostles Proclaim His Deity.
 Colossians 1:12-18.
- T., Mar. 9. Evil Spirits Proclaim His Deity
 Luke 4:33-37
 F., Mar. 10. The Prophets Proclaim His Deity
- S., Mar. 11. The Three-Fold Witness.
 I John 5:1-10.
 Sun., Mar. 12. Topic—"The Word Was God."
- John 1:1-5,14; John 10:27-33.
- M., Mar. 13. Born of a Woman.
 Galatians 4:1-5.
- T., Mar. 14. An Obedient Man.
 W., Mar. 15. Man's Mediator with God.
 I Timothy 2:1-6.
- T., Mar. 16. The Son of David.

 Matthew 1:1.
- F., Mar. 17. A Man of Sorrows.

 Matthew 26:36-40.
- S., Mar. 18. A Physical Body.

 Luke 24:36-43.

 Sun., Mar. 19. Topic—"Behold the Man!" Luke 2:52; John 19:1-5.
- M., Mar. 20. The Prophet Foretells His Death.
 Isaiah 53:3-10.
 T., Mar. 21. Matthew Describes His Death.
 Matthew 27:29-54.
 W., Mar. 22. Mark Describes His Death.
 Mark 15:16-39.
 T., Mar. 23. Luke Describes His Death.
 Luke 23:26-53.

- F., Mar. 24. Justified by Faith
- S., Mar. 25. Our Sin-Bearer. I Peter 2:21-25. Sun., Mar. 26. Topic "Christ Died for Our Sins." John 19:31-42. (Palm Sunday).

Senior High-Young People's **Daily Readings**

- M., Feb. 27. Finding Christ through His Word.
 Matthew 7:24-27.
 T., Feb. 28. Finding Christ through Faith.
- W., Mar. 1. Finding Christ through Faith.
 Romans 10:11-13.
 Through Repentance.
 Acts 2:37-40.
 Through Christ through Repentance.
 Acts 2:37-40.
 Through Faith.
 Romans 10:11-13.
 S., Mar. 3. Finding Christ through Repentance.
 Romans 10:39-10.
 Romans 12:3-8.
 S., Mar. 4. Helping Others Find Christ.
 Acts 11:19-26.
 Sun., Mar. 5. Topic—I've Found the Christ!

- M., Mar. 6. Winning Doubters by Witnessing.

 John 20:24,25.
 T., Mar. 7. Winning Foreigners by Witness-
- T., Mar. 7. Winning Foreigners by Witness-ing Acts 18:7-11
- W., Mar. 8. Personal Witnesses.
- T., Mar. 9. Winning the Multitudes.

- F., Mar. 10. A Witness for the Living God.
 S., Mar. 11. Witnessing to All Men.
 Sun., Mar. 12. Topic Winsome Witnessing.
 John 1:42-51.
- M., Mar. 13. Finding the Lost. T., Mar. 14. Sowing Good Seed. Luke 15:3-7.
- W., Mar. 15. We Are Saved by God.
 Psalm 51:7-13.
- T., Mar. 16. Others Are Being Saved.
 Acts 15:3.
- F., Mar. 17. Christ Is Coming.
 Philippians 3:20,21.
 S., Mar. 18. God Is Our God. Psalm 100.
 Sun., Mar. 19. Topic—I'm So Happy! Ephesians 5:19,20; Philippians 4:4-7.
- M., Mar. 20. One Generation after Another. Ecclesiastes 1:1-9. T., Mar. 21. Things Unshakable. Hebrews 12:25-29.
- W., Mar. 22. Meat That Endures.

 John 6:24-29.
- T., Mar. 23. Unfailing Promises. I Kings 8:54-60.

- F., Mar. 24. A Sure Reward.
 S., Mar. 25. God's Enduring Word.
 Sun., Mar. 26. Topic—Changing Tunes. Matthew 21:3; Mark 11:8-10; 15:12-15. (Palm Sunday).



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COMING EVENT For Your Prayer Calenda

Here is a list of Christian Endeavor ventions and conferences scheduled to held during the next few months. Remen these events in your daily Quiet Hour.

FEBRUARY

- 2-80th Anniversary Rally, Williston Chu Portland, Maine
- 4—Anniversary Fellowship Banquet, Willi Church, Portland, Maine
- 17-18-Pacific Regional Conference, Portla Oregon

7- 9—Washington, Linden

14-15—Pennsylvania (Spring Executive)

20-23—Oregon, Roseburg

JUNIOR CE MEETINGS The Quarterly for Junior

Topics for MARCH

- Mar. 5. What Does Worship Mean? Psalm 95:
- Mar. 12. My Part in Church Worship.
- Mar. 19. Jesus in the Upper Room. Matthew 26:17
- Mar. 26. Jesus on the Cross.

Matthew 27:31

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NEWS

from around the world

ristian Endeavor's 80th anniversary will marked February 2 with an Anniversary marked February 2 with an Anniversary lly in Williston Congregational Church, rtland, Maine—the birthplace of the first fiety. Speaking at this event is Dr. Clyde Meadows, president of the International ciety. An 80th Anniversary Fellowship inquet will be held on February 4, with Daniel A. Poling, president of the orld's Union, speaking and Norman Klautoastmaster. Rev. W. Lloyd Williams, inister of Williston Church, and members the Christian Endeavor society will par-pipate. Honored guests will be Mrs. J. arker Paxson, daughter of Granville Staes, and Mr. and Mrs. James Passon. Mr. aples was president of the first society, hich was organized February 2, 1881.



Photo by W. Valroy Redick

aders at the Pennsylvania Fall Executive meetg in Erie were (left to right) Elwood Dunn, eneral secretary, Michigan Union; Harold E. esterhoff, general secretary, International Soety; Gordon McMordie, general secretary, Penn-Ivania; George L. Brown, Pennsylvania presi-ent; and Warren G. Hoopes, Sr., former general cretary of Pennsylvania.

ocieties and unions are urged to send re-orts and photos of Christian Endeavor leek activities January 29-February 5 to HE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD. hese will be published in the March and pril issues.

ilia Phillips is shown with an exhibit on Great ritain which was one of the displays on Chrisan Endeavor around the world at the "Sponge nd Blotter" conference held by San Jacinto exas) District. The backdrop features mast-eads from the Irish and Scottish Christian Eneavor publications, with dolls of the countries, a and scones, etc., on the table.
Photo by Henry Phillips





Adean Z. Young of Roanoke heads the Virginia Union Married, she is a member of the Disciples of Christ Church and does part-time accounting work. She served as president of the Virginia Union 1953-55 and has also been president of the Roanoke and the Blue Ridge District Unions.

THE AUSTRALIAN ENDEAVOURER, official organ of the National Christian Endeavour. Union of Australia, will make its appearance February, 1961, under the editorship of Roger A. Ryall. It will be an amalgamation of six present publications—those of five states and the national superintendent's newsletter. Published monthly, the magazine will include devotional articles, practical program suggestions, national convention information, news from all the states, and news of coming events.

Warren E. Parr, president of the Illinois Union, lives in Mapleton with his wife and 21/2 year old daughter, Sherrie Lee. A graduate of Bradley University, he is employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is active in Grace Presbyterian Church in



When Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, visited the Far East in December, he met with Endeavorers in both Japan and Korea. In Tokyo he was met at the airport by Izumi Watanabe, field secretary of the Japan Union. He had lunch with Kojiro Hata and members of the Executive Committee, and spent a full day with Endeavorers. In Korea he was welcomed royally in Seoul and a great reception was held by the young people. He spoke at a Sunday evening mass meeting with over 1,000 attending and reports it was "a wonderful rally in true Chrisports it was a wonderful rany in the christian Endeavor fashion." He also spoke at two 8th Army Chapel services and to a standing-room-only crowd at a Sunday afternoon service in Union Church.

Christian Endeavor International will be Christian Endeavor International will be represented by four youth and two adults at the North American Ecumenical Youth Assembly August 16-23, 1961, on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Several thousand youthful Christians from many traditions will meet to affirm and explore the Gospel of Christ and its releases in our world today. and its relevance in our world today.



Again this year the float entered by Imperial County Union took first place in the religious division of the El Centro, California, Christmas Parade. According to Edward W. Simpson, the framework was built over a jeep and 8,000 paper napkins were stuffed into it. The Bible was made of cardboard.

Suzanne Louise Ross, who weighed in at five pounds, one and one-half ounces on arrival December 8, is a welcome addition to the home of Robert and Nelda Ross, 3317 Elm Avenue, Brookfield, Illinois. Mr. Ross, formerly educational secretary and citizenship director of the International Society, is now minister of Brookfield Christian

Dr. Daniel A. Poling proudly wears the new President's Chain of the World's Union, which was presented to him in 1959. This significant chain of office will be passed from president to president.

Photo by Daniel Vasquez



THE ENDEAVORER OF THE YEAR

IN THIS 80TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR the International Society, with the help of local societies and unions, will seek out a Christian Endeavorer of the Year. Any Christian Endeavor society, union, or adult group in the United States, Canada, or Mexico who enrolls in the 1961 Anniversary Year Society Roll Call may nominate a young person for the Endeavorer of the Year selection.

THE FIRST AWARD will be an all-expense paid trip (to a maximum of \$150) to the 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention, Chicago, July 5-8, plus hotel and meal costs at the fabulous Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago for five nights' lodging (dormitory style rooms, four or more to a room) Tuesday through Saturday and all meals Wednesday through Saturday, plus a free registration worth \$4.

THE NEXT THREE RUNNERS-UP will receive free hotel and meals as described above, worth \$36.75, along with the free registration worth \$4.

THE BASIS OF AWARDS will be a nomination by a Christian Endeavor society, union, or adult group. The form for nomination will be sent to any of these organizations who enroll during January or February or March in the 1961 Anniversary Year Society Roll Call.

PERSONS NOMINATED must have passed their 12th birthday but must not have reached their 25th birthday by February 28, 1961. The person nominated must be an active member of a Christian Endeavor society. The completed nomination forms must be received by the International Society in Columbus, Ohio, not later than April 17, 1961. The winners will be selected by a board of International judges appointed by the International Society of Christian Endeavor. The decisions of the judges are final and will be announced on May 25, 1961.

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AND THE 1961 CONVENTION

SOCIETY CERTIFICATES

ALL ACROSS NORTH AMERICA certificates are being received by Christian Endeavor societies, announcing that the society has enrolled in the International Society. Societies giving \$15 receive a blue seal certificate. Red seals are used on certificates to those groups giving \$30 while gifts of \$50 or more merit a gold seal.

BY ENROLLING in the International Society as a society . . . as well as individual members . . . your group becomes an active part of a world-wide movement. Proudly display an enrollment certificate where your society meets. Answer the Society Roll Call.

WHO WILL BE the 1961 Christian Endeavorer of the Year? He or she may be in your church! Every society and union ought to name someone. It's very simple! Just see that your society or union is enrolled during January, February, or March in the 1961 Anniversary Year Society Roll Call.